

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 18 and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer and AMEND claims 1, 2, 5, 11-14, 16, 20, 21 and 23 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A paper guide of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus for guiding a printing paper entering a fusing unit, the paper guide comprising:
a guiding member guiding the printing paper into the fusing unit;
a plurality of guiding ribs formed on the guiding member to prevent direct contact of the printing paper with the guiding member; and
a blocking bar formed on a leading end near the fusing unit of the guiding member, the blocking bar is slanted upward in a direction towards the fusing unit such that a top portion of the plurality of guiding ribs contacts with a top portion of the blocking bar, wherein a plurality of spaces between the plurality of guiding ribs are blocked by the blocking bar from a space where the fusing unit is formed.

2. (currently amended) ~~The A paper guide of claim 1~~ of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus for guiding a printing paper entering a fusing unit, the paper guide comprising:
a guiding member guiding the printing paper into the fusing unit;
a plurality of guiding ribs formed on the guiding member to prevent direct contact of the printing paper with the guiding member; and
a blocking bar formed on a leading end near the fusing unit of the guiding member wherein a plurality of spaces between the plurality of guiding ribs are blocked by the blocking bar from a space where the fusing unit is formed, wherein the blocking bar has a triangular section with a slope steeper than a section of the guiding ribs.

3. (original) The paper guide of claim 2, wherein the paper guide is made by a mold.

4. (original) The paper guide of claim 2, wherein the paper guide is made by a press.

5. (currently amended) The paper guide of claim ~~4~~2, wherein the blocking bar is formed at a same height as the guiding ribs.
6. (original) The paper guide of claim 5, wherein the blocking bar has a triangular section with a slope steeper than a section of the guiding ribs.
7. (original) The paper guide of claim 6, wherein the paper guide is made by a mold.
8. (original) The paper guide of claim 6, wherein the paper guide is made by a press.
9. (original) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:
a paper supplying unit storing and supplying printing papers;
a developing unit developing an image on the printing paper supplied by the paper supplying unit;
a fusing unit fusing the image developed on the printing paper; and
a paper guide guiding the printing paper to the fusing unit after the printing paper has passed through the developing unit, wherein the paper guide comprises guiding ribs formed on a guiding member to prevent direct contact of the printing paper with the guiding member, and a blocking bar formed on a leading end near the fusing unit of the guiding member, wherein a plurality of spaces between the plurality of guiding ribs are blocked by the blocking bar from a space where the fusing unit is formed.
10. (original) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the blocking bar is formed at a same height as the guiding ribs.
11. (currently amended) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim ~~5~~10, wherein the blocking bar has a triangular section with a slope steeper than a section of the guiding ribs.
12. (currently amended) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim ~~6~~11, wherein the paper guide is made by a mold.
13. (currently amended) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim ~~6~~11, wherein the paper guide is made by a press.

14. (currently amended) The paper guide of claim ~~1~~2, wherein the plurality of spaces are heated by heat transmitted through the paper guide and maintain a same temperature as the paper guide.

15. (original) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the plurality of spaces are heated by heat transmitted through the paper guide and maintain a same temperature as the paper guide.

16. (currently amended) The paper guide of claim ~~1~~2, wherein heat is uniformly transmitted to a portion of the printing paper in contact with the plurality of guiding ribs and the portion of the printing paper in contact with the plurality of spaces.

17. (original) The electrophotographic image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein heat is uniformly transmitted to a portion of the printing paper in contact with the plurality of guiding ribs and the portion of the printing paper in contact with the plurality of spaces.

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) The paper guide of claim ~~1~~2, wherein the blocking bar is located on a front of the guiding member in a paper advancing direction.

21. (currently amended) The paper guide of claim ~~1~~2, wherein the plurality of guiding ribs are formed on the guiding member in a paper advancing direction.

22. (original) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:
a paper supplying unit which stores and supplies printing papers;
a developing unit which develops an image on the printing paper supplied by the paper supplying unit;
a fusing unit which fuses the image developed on the printing paper; and
a paper guide which guides the printing paper to the fusing unit after the printing paper has passed through the developing unit, the paper guide comprising a plurality of guiding ribs formed on a guiding member, and a blocking bar formed on a leading end near the fusing unit of the guiding member, wherein a plurality of spaces are formed in a hexahedron shape and enclosed by the printing paper on a top portion and the blocking bar on a front portion and open

on a rear portion to the developing unit when the printing paper is positioned on the plurality of guiding ribs.

23. (currently amended) A paper guide of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus for guiding a printing paper entering a fusing unit, the paper guide comprising:

a guiding member guiding the printing paper into the fusing unit;

a plurality of guiding ribs formed on the guiding member to prevent direct contact of the printing paper with the guiding member; and

a blocking bar disposed on a leading end of the guiding member in a proximity of the fusing unit, the blocking bar slanted upward in a direction towards the fusing unit such that a top portion of the plurality of guiding ribs contacts with a top portion of the blocking bar, wherein air in a plurality of spaces formed by the plurality of guiding ribs, is blocked from an outside air so as to remain at a same temperature as the plurality of guiding ribs.